UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

OCT 1 7 2005

U.S PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES Ex parte SATOSHI MIKAMI,

MASAHIRO SANO

and

TAKAHARU YASUE

Application 09/341,328

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received electronically at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on August 31, 2005. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below:

A review of the Image File Wrapper (IFW) indicates that appellants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on December 16, 2002. It is not apparent from the record whether the examiner considered the statement submitted or notified

Application 09/341,328

appellants of why their submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98. A communication notifying appellants of the Primary Examiner's decision is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- for consideration of the IDS filed December 16,
   2002;
- 2. for appropriate notification to appellants regarding the Primary Examiner's decision; and
  - 3. for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Bv:

DALE M. SHAW

Program and Resource Administrator

(571) 272-9797

DMS/psb

Flynn Thiel Boutell & Tanis 2026 Rambling Road Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1699